

REMARKS

I. General

Claims 13, 15-18, and 20-27 are pending in the present application. Applicant notes with appreciation that claims 18, 20, 21, and 23-27 stand allowed and that claim 22 is indicated as containing allowable subject matter. Claims 13 and 15-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections of record.

Claim 13 has been amended herein to incorporate the limitations of claim 22. Accordingly, claim 13 now presents claim 22 in independent form. Claim 22 has been canceled. No new matter has been added and Applicant does not dedicate any subject matter to the public by this amendment.

II. The 35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejections

Claims 13 and 15-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamamoto, United States patent number 5,361,395, in view of Kaschke, United States patent number 5,555,550, and further in view of Eastmond, United States patent number 4,606,075. Applicant traverses the rejections of record at least for the reasons set forth in the Response dated October 2, 2007. However, in an effort to expedite issuance of the claims, Applicant has amended claim 13 to recite the limitations of claim 22. As claim 22 was indicated as allowable by the Examiner, it is believed that all the claims are in condition for immediate allowance.

III. Summary

In view of the above, Applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the claims be passed to issue.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 06-2380, under Order No. 49581/P006US/09604915 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

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Respectfully submitted,

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